

BANDIT LOCKS GIRL AND TWO MEN IN VAULT

Robs Office of \$800 After Imprisoning Three Victims.

SHOOTS POLICEMAN DEAD

Thief Escapes After one of Boldest Hold-Ups in Chicago History.

AIDED BY BLONDE WOMAN

Accomplice Escapes While Crowd is Chasing Man with Levelled Revolver.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Chicago, Jan. 21.—A hold-up man attempted a double murder within a few steps of one of the busiest corners in the Loop district tonight. His first shot wounded one victim, and he killed Traffic Policeman Brewer A. Johnson in his tracks. The shooting occurred in front of the Cook Tourists Agency at 15 East Jackson Boulevard, just a few steps from the corner of State street.

After shooting the policeman, the robber, who had played a lone hand in one of the most daring hold-ups in the city's history, joined a woman in a taxicab standing near the entrance to Cook's Agency, the scene of the robbery.

Hundreds Hear Shot.

The shots brought hundreds of persons.

The robber realized this almost instantly, jumped out of the cab and ran. The crowd followed, but he held them back with leveled revolver and escaped down an alley.

The woman left the cab on the heels of the man, and taking advantage of the excitement, mingled with the throng and was lost to sight.

Thursday afternoon a blonde woman about 25, of striking beauty and handsomely attired, walked into Cook's agency and asked about trips to Panama. After a few minutes conversation, she said she would call again. This afternoon at about the same time the woman called again. A man followed her into the agency, closing the door behind him. When he turned around he held a revolver in each hand and gave the command:

"Hands up!"

Locks Victim in Safe.

Edward Stone, the manager, and Frank Benelcha, a clerk, quickly complied. E. L. Walsh, cashier, showed fight. The robber fired. The bullet struck Walsh in the chest, but its force had been checked by the wires of a cage, and it inflicted only a slight wound. The robber then drove Walsh, who was still able to walk, together with Benelcha and Miss Pleszynski, the stenographer, into the open steel vault, closed the heavy door and turned the combination.

Then he locked the front door and took between \$500 and \$800 out of the money-drawer. Just about the time the shot was fired a taxicab with a blond young woman as its only passenger stopped near the agency.

E. D. Scott, who was passing when the shot was fired, called Policeman Johnson from the State street crossing. They returned to the agency, but found the door locked. They saw the robber leaving by another door.

The bandit fired twice. The first shot was enough. It pierced Johnson's heart, and the policeman pitched forward, dead. Then the bandit made his escape. Later the three men and the girl, almost suffocated, were liberated from the vault.

Dodges Subs By Zig-Zag Course

Regina Italia Reaches New York Harbor After Two Narrow Escapes.

New York, Jan. 21.—The Italian steamer Regina Italia reached port today after dodging submarines in the Mediterranean and weathering heavy gales in the stormy Atlantic.

Soon after leaving Naples a wireless from a French steamer indicated that a submarine was about fifteen miles astern of the Italia. Full speed ahead was ordered and the ship's course altered. At sunrise the next day another message stated that a submarine was ten miles to the south of them, but the liner made Gibraltar without seeing any of the undersea craft.

Don't Want to Hear Bryan.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 21.—The legislature today adopted a concurrent resolution inviting President Wilson to speak to the South Carolina general assembly on "National Preparedness." An effort to have William J. Bryan included in the resolution failed.

Say Germans Burned Belgian Houses

Paris, Jan. 21.—German soldiers burned 13,397 houses in Belgium during their conquest of the kingdom, according to figures made public by the Belgian government at Havre today.

President and Bride Depart on Mayflower

President Wilson and Mrs. Wilson boarded the yacht Mayflower here late last night and started on a pleasure trip which will last at least until Monday. The President and Mrs. Wilson left after the dinner to the diplomats, and only a few knew of his departure. The President took his stenographer with him, and plans to do some work on the speeches to be delivered on his forthcoming stumping tour.

OPPOSES TAX ON BELGIANS

Belgium Minister Protests to Lansing Against High Rates Imposed by Germans.

ENVOY SAYS LEVIES' EFFECT WILL BE TO CRUSH PEOPLE

Not Expected Teuton Embassy Will Answer Charges with Justification of New Taxes.

Charging that the German authorities in Belgium have imposed exorbitant taxes on the people of that country, E. Haventh, the Belgian Minister, laid before Secretary of State Lansing yesterday afternoon a lengthy protest from his government. Although the complaint is one in which the United States has no diplomatic interest, the minister presented it in the same way in which the various belligerents from time to time have lodged with this country, as one of the leading neutral powers and a signatory of The Hague conventions, protests against atrocities and other alleged violations of international law.

The Belgian Legation, it was stated here last night, expects to make the complaint public in a day or two. It goes forth, it is understood, that Germany, not content with seizing the territory of Belgium and demanding heavy indemnities from the cities and towns which have been occupied, has recently levied new taxes, the effect of which would be to crush the people of the country.

Although it was indicated in German Embassy circles last night that no reply would be made to the charges, the opinion was expressed that it was no concern whatever of the exiled government of Belgium as to what taxes the German government sees fit to impose on people living in the territory which Germany now controls.

The Hague Rules.

Officials in Washington were inclined privately to regard the new tax levies in Belgium as significant of the determination of Germany to make the citizens of conquered territory contribute heavily toward the cost of the war.

The Hague convention of 1907 devotes Articles 48 and 49 to the rights of a belligerent respecting the levying of taxes in occupied enemy territory. These articles read as follows:

"Article 48.—If, in the territory occupied, the occupant collects the taxes, dues, and tolls imposed for the benefit of the state, he shall do so, as far as is possible, in accordance with the rules of assessment and incidence in force, and shall in consequence be bound to defray the expenses of the administration of the occupied territory to the same extent as the legitimate government was so bound."

Article 49.—If, in addition to the taxes mentioned in the above article, the occupant levies other money contributions in the occupied territory, this shall only be for the needs of the army or of the administration of the territory in question."

Article 50 states that "no general penalty, pecuniary or otherwise, shall be inflicted upon the population on account of the acts of individuals for which they cannot be regarded as jointly and severally responsible."

Roumanians Contract Large Loan.

Geneva, Jan. 21.—The Budapest newspaper Stagel states that the Roumanian government has contracted a loan for \$7,500,000 in London, the cereals crop being pledged as security.

Teutons Take 3,000,000 Men

Amsterdam, Jan. 21.—The German allies have captured 3,000,000 square miles of territory since the war began, according to the estimates of military experts in Berlin. The other captures by the German allies include 3,000,000 prisoners, 10,000 guns, 40,000 Maxim's and 50,000 rifles.

High Honor for Czar of Bulgars.

Vienna (via Amsterdam), Jan. 21.—Emperor Francis Joseph has appointed Czar Ferdinand, of Bulgaria, a field marshal in the Austro-Hungarian army in recognition of the achievements of the Bulgarian army in Serbia.

Lose 300,000 Men in One Battle.

Paris, Jan. 21.—The Journal, quoting Swiss military experts, states that the Germans lost 300,000 men in the battle in Champagne last September.

Baltimore and Ohio to Baltimore.

Baltimore and Ohio to Baltimore. \$1.50 round trip every Saturday and Sunday; good returning until 9 a. m. Monday.—Adv.

SAYS DEMOCRATS WILL BE JUDGED BY DEFENSE ACTS

Mayor Mitchel Tells Security Congress Party Is Expected to Furnish Preparedness.

NOT FOR MILITARISM

Speaker Says American People No Longer Can Count on Continued Peace.

GOMPERS INDORSES DEFENSE

Sends Letter Urging Military Training for Masses—Merchant Marine Advocated.

Asserting that the American people can no longer count on continued peace, and advocating preparedness but not militarism, John Purroy Mitchel, mayor of New York City, said last night before the National Security Congress in Continental Memorial Hall that the efficiency of democratic government was on trial for its life.

"We are passing a great national crisis," said Mr. Mitchel, "and we are in the hands of a national democratic government. They are responsible, and efficiency of the democratic government is on trial today as it never was before. Democracy must recognize that we cannot count on continued peace and must teach its citizens that military duty must go with civic duty. Will they make democracy efficient and able to perpetuate itself?"

Gompers' Letter Read.

Mayor Mitchel advocated "military training for the whole male population of the country," starting with the boys at adolescence and later training them as adults.

Henry J. Hardy, representative of the American Federation of Labor, read a letter from Samuel Gompers strongly advocating naval and military preparedness and the introduction of athletic training in the public schools. Such training, said Mr. Gompers in the letter, would make for "better preparedness for the duties of life as well as for military duty."

"The basis of national defense is strong, well developed citizenship," declared the letter from Mr. Gompers, "and national defense is but one phase of national life." Mr. Gompers advocated the training of the masses for military service, the rich and poor serving on an equality, and the paying of the people for the time lost from their labor.

"Organized labor is against war, yet we believe its interests are best cared for by provision against war," he said.

Senator George E. Chamberlain, of Oregon, author of a bill providing for a military scheme similar to that of Austria and Switzerland, said his heart

Indemnities for Massacre Sought

At Request of Texans, State Department Prepares Basis for Formal Claims.

Under pressure of appeals from the people of Southwestern Texas, the State Department yesterday began to assemble all evidence in connection with the massacre of the seventeen American citizens at Santa Ysabel, Mexico, with a view toward presenting a formal claim on the Carranza government for an indemnification of the widows and other relatives of the murdered men.

Representative William R. Smith, of Texas, is responsible for setting the wheels of the department in motion in this direction. Armed with a sheaf of telegrams from the residents of the Sixteenth Texas district, he went to the department and informed Secretary Lansing that his constituents deeply resented suggestions emanating from Washington that the State Department was not sure it could hold the Carranza government in any way responsible for the outrage.

Death to Americans in Mexico and destruction of their property, as well as war to a finish against Carranza, was determined upon, it became known here last night at a formal convention of Mexican revolutionary leaders. It was held in November at a ranch near Cordoba.

Present and joining in the agreement are said to have been representatives of Villa, Zapata, Argumedo, Higinio Aguilar, the Cedillo brothers and many lesser chieftains.

Bandits Lock Cashier in Vault.

Culver City, Cal., Jan. 21.—Masked bandits entered the Culver City Bank this afternoon and, after beating the cashier into unconsciousness, locked him in a vault, and escaped with a sum of money, the amount of which at this time is not known.

Ancona Bodies Found.

Rome, Jan. 21.—A number of bodies of women and children who lost their lives in the destruction of the Italian liner Ancona by a submarine were picked up today off Pizzo in Calabria.

Brookland Body Approves Herald's Pension Crusade

Citizens Declare That Police and Firemen's Retirement Money Is "Just Debt" "Cyclone" Davis Makes Democratic Campaign Speech in His Nice, New Collar.

The Brookland Citizens' Association last night adopted a resolution calling upon Congress to recognize police and firemen's pensions as legal debts of the District and that they be provided for as one of the general revenues of the city. The resolution, introduced by S. D. Boss, read:

"Resolved, That the Brookland Citizens' Association does hereby approve the thought of The Washington Herald when it stated that pensions for both police and firemen was 'a just debt' and that proper pensions should be provided, and be it further

"Resolved, That the Commissioners and others having this pension matter in hand be requested and urged to hasten the passage of a bill at as early an hour as possible, so that these men entitled to pensions, and who have earned same by faithfully performing every service demanded of them in line of duty, may no longer be harassed by late and short payments or in any way delayed in receiving the just pensions due them at the end of each calendar month."

The campaign of the Retail Merchants' Association against false advertising was commended by the Brookland citizens, and S. G. Quinn, E. C. Saltzman and Charles Kracke were named a committee to co-operate with the merchants.

Despite his denunciation from the floor of the House on Thursday of the stylish sports of the twentieth century, Representative "Cyclone" Davis, of Texas, appeared before the association with an immaculate collar shining through his beard.

"The devil entered the Garden of Eden, and made a speech. It went Republican, and ever since the struggle has been going on between God's people and the other fellows," said Representative Davis.

Girl Reporter Swears Negro Said He'd Stand by Mrs. Mohr

By SOPHIE TREADWELL. Providence, R. I., Jan. 21.—Just before court adjourned in the Mohr trial this afternoon for the recess until Monday, the State called Miss Gertrude Stevenson. Her appearance as a prosecution witness was quite unheralded and unexpected, but probably no one—not even George Heils nor Florence Ormby—has given more damaging testimony against both Mrs. Mohr and the two colored boys.

Miss Stevenson is a reporter on a Boston newspaper. Just after Brown, Spellman and Heils were arrested, she went to interview them in the Bristol jail. She did not tell them she was a reporter. She said she had just come from Mrs. Mohr.

"Brown told me to tell Mrs. Mohr to be sure to say nothing about the motorcycle, that he would say that his wife had saved enough money to pay for it. He said, 'Will you go to see my sister and tell her to say that I was at her house the night of the shooting?'"

"I told them that I had just come from seeing Mrs. Mohr. Heils asked how she felt, and I said: 'She feels pretty badly.' Heils said: 'Tell her not to feel badly. If she sticks to us we will stick to her.' Brown said: 'Tell her to get me a lawyer.'"

"I asked them why they had confessed and they said they hadn't, and Brown said that Heils had become nervous. Heils then said: 'I didn't spill anything.'"

Miss Stevenson testified that she went back to the jail the next day and that Brown slipped a piece of paper to her with the request that she give it to his sister; that it was his alibi. Miss Stevenson said that he gave this paper to Chief Robbins.

Mrs. Florence E. Barney, Mrs. Mohr's landlady, was put on the stand by the State to corroborate Heils' testimony that he had called to see Mrs. Mohr the night of the murder.

She testified to seeing Brown the night of the shooting and hearing Mrs. Mohr discuss with him "something about Charlie going to Newport."

Elsa Mueller, formerly employed by Dr. Mohr as housekeeper, was asked: "Have you ever had any talks with Mrs. Mohr about the doctor?"

"Yes, she said she was through with the doctor. She did not wish to have anything to do with him; she said she had closed the door against him for nearly two years. At Newport, Mrs. Mohr was at the house and she looked around and said, 'Never mind, if I'm not here now, I will be soon, for I'll get him yet.' She also spoke of Miss Burger and said if she ever came in the house again 'She would get hers.'"

SUB DISPUTE NEARING END

Lusitania Case May Be Settled at Conference Next Week with Von Bernstorff.

BELIEVED ENVOY WILL BE GIVEN POWER TO PROCEED

New Legal Question Injected by Demand of Insurance Companies for Indemnity.

Secretary of State Lansing and Count von Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, are expected to meet early next week for another, and perhaps final, conference looking to a settlement of the Lusitania controversy. Unofficial advice reached Washington yesterday to the effect that the Berlin foreign office has sent the Ambassador a set of instructions enabling him to proceed with the negotiations, and although up to a late hour the German Embassy had not been officially advised that the communication had started, it has been expected for several days.

Whether the conference next week is to end in a final adjustment, or whether further exchanges will be necessary between the Embassy and Berlin, it was authoritatively stated last night, will depend entirely on the nature of the instructions now on the way. If, as is hoped in German Embassy quarters, Count von Bernstorff has been given a certain latitude, it is confidently predicted that a formal settlement will be reached. If, on the contrary, the foreign office has restricted the Ambassador as to the exact language to be used in the agreement, it is expected that further negotiations will be necessary.

A new legal question has arisen in the Lusitania case through the efforts of insurance companies to collect from the German government money paid out on policies held by Lusitania victims. State Department officials announced yesterday that several insurance companies had taken preliminary steps to file claims against any sums that may be paid by Germany to indemnify families of those killed. This raises a legal issue which must be met, officials said, before indemnity payments can be made.

Kills Son-in-Law.

Woodbury, N. J., Jan. 21.—Mrs. Charles Bagby shot and fatally injured her son-in-law, William Shaw, today when the latter tried to enter Mrs. Bagby's home to talk to his wife. He has been separated from her for some time.

THOUSANDS LEFT WITHOUT HOMES BY BIG FLOOD

Property Loss Enormous in Deluge Sweeping Chicago and Its Environs.

WATER SUPPLY MENACED

Desplaines and Fox Rivers Overflow Banks, Sweeping Many Homes Away.

ICE BLASTED TO START FLOW

District from Joliet to Aurora Threatened—One of Worst Floods in History of Illinois.

Special to The Washington Herald. Chicago, Jan. 21.—Thousands today are homeless, millions of dollars' worth of property has been destroyed and damaged, and the health of every resident of Chicago and its environs has been endangered as the result of the most disastrous flood in the history of Illinois.

A record rainfall for January, reaching nearly two inches, caused an overflow of the Desplaines River, brought a rise in the Fox River to a point where dynamiting was resorted to, and flooded the Chicago River until it was thought that its flow would be diverted into the lake, imperiling the water supply.

The greatest damage was reported in the Fox River district, where bridges were swept away, some carried down the river, and thousands rendered homeless. Joliet witnessed the worst flood in its history. More than 2,000 were driven from their homes, and many were rescued from drowning by means of rafts and boats.

The Fox River rose more than seven inches. Men with dynamite were sent down the river from Joliet to Aurora in an attempt to break the ice and permit the water to flow freely.

Maywood Is Menaced.

Maywood was seriously menaced by the overflowing of the Desplaines River. At several points more than four feet of water flooded the streets and the homes of thousands were imperiled. Late in the day the river was registering a rise of six inches, with no relief in sight.

In Chicago the greatest damage caused by the deluge was the flooding of thousands of basements, the inability of the sewerage system to carry away the water, the flooding of one of the big pumping stations, resulting in the contaminating of the supply of drinking water, and the crippling of the telephone and street car systems.

Thousands of families residing in basements were driven from their homes. In many cases they were rescued only with difficulty. In the vicinity of Chicago Lawn, the situation was serious.

Six feet of water stood in the streets in the residential section of Joliet. Lighting plants, telephone stations, schools and street car systems were thrown out of commission, and 2,000 persons were forced to seek refuge when their homes were flooded with water.

Moosheart Hit Hard.

Moosheart, the home of the Loyal Order of Moose, where the order's industrial school is located, has been flooded and men were working feverishly to check the rise and prevent the breaking of a dam which is holding the water back.

The Calumet River district was under three feet of water. Furnace fires in all of the big industrial plants were extinguished and thousands had to leave their homes. A property loss of more than \$100,000 is estimated. The main section of Hammond was a miniature lake. More than a dozen towns in the district have been damaged.

At Rockford, Ottawa, La Salle, Streator, and La Monte, the rains have driven thousands from their homes and have wrought much damage.

WILSON SENDS LETTER FOR INVALID'S JUBILEE

President Greets Brooklyn Woman Who Will Celebrate Her Fiftieth Year in Bed.

President Wilson yesterday gave directions that a letter of sympathy be sent to Miss Mollie Fancher, of 189 Gates avenue, Brooklyn, who on February 3 will celebrate what she calls her golden jubilee, commemorating her fiftieth year in bed as an invalid. Miss Fancher has issued beautifully embossed cards inviting her friends to this jubilee. The cards read:

"Mollie Fancher announces her golden jubilee, Thursday, February 3, 1916, 2 to 6—8 to 12."

Miss Fancher sent one of the invitations to the President and explained the circumstances to him. He immediately directed that a letter should be sent to her.

British Vote More Men for Navy.

London, Jan. 21.—A vote for 50,000 additional officers and men for the British navy was agreed upon in the house of commons this afternoon.

SINK CRUISER AND TRANSPORTS. Tonnage Claim British Lost Three Ships During December.

Berlin, Jan. 21.—The semi-official Trans-Ocean News Bureau states: "Competent German authorities declare that during December twenty-four ships, among which were one British auxiliary cruiser and two British transports, totaling 104,764 tons, were destroyed by Austro-German fleets. Reliable reports regarding ships destroyed by mines and collisions are still lacking. The real losses of the entente allies, therefore, in the aggregate, probably will not be less than 120,000 tons."

SCHWAB HOLDS "STEEL FEAST"

Dines Twenty-nine Men of Millions Who Labored Together.

CARNEGIE'S "BOYS" RECALL TOILING DAYS OF YEARS AGO

Company Talked of Days Spent in Pittsburgh Mills and Not of Midvale or Bethlehem.

Special to The Washington Herald. New York, Jan. 21.—Twenty-nine men, who a score of years ago in overall, ate from their dinner pails in the steel mills of Pittsburgh, had dinner together tonight in this city. They were the men whom Andrew Carnegie delights in calling "his boys." The \$7,000,000 palace of Charles M. Schwab took the place of the roaring, clanging scene of industry, where they first met.

Those present were Charles M. Schwab, Charles W. Baker, W. R. Balesinger, W. W. Blackburn, H. P. Bope, Albert C. Case, William Ellis Corey, William B. Dickson, Thomas Morrison, W. C. McCausland, John McDougl, Gibson Packer, James Gayley, Joseph E. Schwab, A. R. Peacock, H. E. Tener, E. H. Utley, Charles L. Taylor, William L. Abbott, D. G. Kerr, D. M. Clemson, James Scott, William P. Palmer, Robert A. Franks, E. S. Mills, George E. McCague, J. J. Campbell, Aza B. Hunt, and Homer D. Williams.

For fourteen years they have met annually at Andrew Carnegie's home. The illness this year of Mr. Carnegie, who is in Florida, caused Mr. Schwab to entertain them. Although absent in the flesh, their mentor sent a cordial letter.

"Did you talk about Midvale or Bethlehem Steel?" Mr. Taylor was asked.

"No, we just talked about Carnegie," he replied with a laugh. "We didn't even talk about Krupp."

Asquith Wants Munition Workers.

London, Jan. 21.—An urgent plea for more workers in munitions factories was made today by Premier Asquith. "Urgent government action is necessary immediately," Mr. Asquith said.

Posse Seeks Escape Convicts.

Moscow, Ark., Jan. 21.—A sheriff's posse, heavily armed, left here today for a mountainous region several miles distant to capture if possible sixty-five convicts who escaped from the penitentiary here several days ago.

Our Pursuing Forces Captured the Town of Hasran Kalabi (twenty miles east of Erzerum), sabering or taking over 1,500 prisoners and capturing a gun, much ammunition, and a large camp of tents, tempted to capture a hill we occupied, but were repulsed.

"Northwest of Zaborash an enemy balloon exploded in the air, the car falling inside our lines."

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January 16 Herald's net paid circulation was 28,284

(Audit Bureau of Circulations' Figures.)

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